

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A case for a handheld device, said case comprising:
a case shell, said case shell having a rear panel hingedly connected to a front panel, wherein said rear panel includes with an inner rear-panel surface and an outer rear-panel surface; and

a fastening means that includes a mating female connector and a male connector;

wherein said rear panel includes a recess on said inner rear-panel surface with a corresponding bubble on said outer rear-panel surface;

wherein a through-bore is provided through said smooth bubble; and

wherein said female connector is embedded in said recess and said male connector is insertable through said through-bore and fastenable with said female connector.

Claim 2 (original): The case of claim 1 further comprising a shell backing, wherein said shell backing covers a portion of said rear panel inner surface and seals said female connector within said recess.

Claim 3 (original): The case of claim 2, wherein said shell is made of metal.

Claim 4 (original): The case of claim 2, wherein said shell is made of a form-rigid material.

Claim 5 (original): The case of claim 1, wherein said male connector includes a threaded shaft, a support shaft, and a head and said threaded shaft is removably fasteneable in said female connector in said recess.

Claim 6 (original): The case of claim 5 further comprising a washer that is unremovably attached to said male threaded fastener.

Claim 7 (original): The case of claim 6, wherein said washer has two surfaces, a first surface that is soft and energy absorbent and a second layer that is rigid.

Claim 8 (original): The case of claim 5, wherein said head includes a slot for receiving an edge of a coin.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The case of claim 5, wherein said head has a circumferential side surface ~~and said side surface has a surface with a surface treatment~~ a portion of which has an enhanced surface for enhancing facilitating gripping.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A case for a handheld device, said case comprising:
a shell having a rear panel hingedly connected to a front panel, wherein said rear panel includes ~~with~~ with an inner rear-panel surface and an outer rear-panel surface;
a fastening means comprising a female connector and a male connector, said male connector having a threaded shaft, a support shaft, and a head;
a recess formed in said inner rear-panel surface that forms a corresponding bubble in said outer rear-panel surface, a through-bore being provided through said bubble
and a backing that is covers at least a portion of said inner rear-panel surface that surrounds said recess;
wherein said female connector is enclosed in said recess between said rear panel and said backing;

wherein said female connector and said recess have a corresponding shape, to prevent said female connector from rotating within said recess; and

wherein said threaded shaft is insertable through said through-bore and threadable into said female connector.

Claim 11 (original): A case and belt clip assembly comprising:

said case of claim 1 and a belt clip, wherein said male threaded fastener has a head and a support shaft and said belt clip has a groove, and wherein said support shaft is slidable within said groove such that said head of said post is captured behind said groove.